CRIME CAN'T WIN

FIGHTING AMERICA'S MOST DANGEROUS CRIMINALS!

CRIME CAN'T WIN

ATLAS

FEB. NO. 9 10¢

SENSATIONAL POLICE CASES PROVING THAT **CRIME CAN'T WIN!**

THE FACTS BEHIND THE GREATEST SWINDLE IN THE MID-EAST! THE CASE OF *THE BLACK PILLS!*

EVEN THE POLICE WERE BAFFLED BY... *THE DEADLY CLUE!*

AND OTHER SHOCKING CASES!

THE EAST COAST POLICE KNEW THAT ONLY LEAD BULLETS COULD STOP THE TERROR

WHEN THE MUELLER GANG STRUCK!

THIS CAPER'LL PUT YOU IN VELVET, BOSS! YA PLANNED IT PERFECT!
I WARNED YA TO KEEP YOUR PAWS OFFA THAT BUZZER, WISE-GUY!
FIELD'S ARMORED SERVICE
FIELD'S PAYMASTER
BOSS! LOOK! SUMPIN' WENT WRONG! IT'S THE COPS!
FIELD'S ARMORED
ALARM

BE A SUCCESS AS A RADIO-TELEVISION TECHNICIAN

2 FREE BOOKS SHOW HOW MAIL COUPON

America's Fast Growing Industry Offers You

EXTRA PAY IN ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE

If you expect to go into military service, mail coupon NOW. Knowing Radio, TV, Electronics can help you get extra rank, extra prestige, more interesting duty at pay up to several times a private's base pay. You are also prepared for good Radio-TV jobs upon leaving service. IT'S SMART TO TRAIN WITH N. R. I. NOW. Mail Coupon TODAY.

1. EXTRA MONEY IN SPARE TIME

Many students make $5, $10 a week extra fixing neighbors' Radios in spare time while learning. The day you enroll I start sending you SPECIAL BOOKLETS to show you how to do this. Tester you build with parts I send helps you service sets. All equipment is yours to keep.

2. GOOD PAY JOB

Your next step is a good job installing and servicing Radio-Television sets or becoming boss of your own Radio-Television sales and service shop or getting a good job in a Broadcasting Station. Today there are over 90,000,000 home and auto Radios. 3100 Broadcasting Stations are on the air. Aviation and Police Radio, Micro-Wave Relay, Two-Way Radio are all expanding, making more and better opportunities for servicing and communication technicians and FCC licensed operators.

3. BRIGHT FUTURE

And think of the opportunities in Television! In 1950 over 5,000,000 Television sets were sold. By 1954 authorities estimate 25,000,000 Television sets will be in use. Over 100 Television Stations are now operating, with experts predicting 1,000. Now is the time to get in line for success and a bright future in America's fast-growing industry. Be a Radio-Television Technician. Mail coupon for Lesson and Book—FREE.

I TRAINED THESE MEN

Chief Engineer, Police Radio Soon after finishing the N. R. I. course, worked for servicing shop. Now I am Chief Engineer of WCUN, WNRN, WSFK, two-way FM Police Radio Installations." S. W. DINWIDDIE, Jacksonville, Ill.

Shop Operations in Television "Have my own shop. Am authorized serviceman for 5 large manufacturers and do servicing for 7 dealers. N.R.I. has enabled me to build an enviable reputation in Television." P. MILLER, Maumee, O.

Over $40 Month Spare Time "When I enrolled, had no idea it would be so easy to learn. Have equipped my shop out of spare time earnings. I am clearing about $40 to $60 a month. Full credit to N.R.I." — J. D. KNIGHT, Denison, Texas.

$25 Weekly Increase Salary "Am with Station WKBO as transmitter operator. Have more than doubled salary since starting in Radio. Future looks bright, N. R. I. has been constant help to me." — A. HERR, New Cumberland, Pa.

$10 Week in Spare Time "Before finishing your course, I earned as much as $10 a week in Radio servicing, at home in my spare time. I recommend N.R.I. to everyone who shows interest in Radio." S. J. PETRUFF, Miami, Fla.

Future of Business with Shop "I operate my own shop and have over 500 customers. My profits average about $250 a month. Have had years of successful experience and I still praise N.R.I. training." J. H. ANDERSON, Atlanta, Ga.

Quit Five Job Through N.R.I. "My first job was operator with KDLR, obtained for me by your Graduate Service Dept. I am now Chief Engineer of Police Radio Station WQOX." T. S. NORTON, Hamilton, Ohio.

Acquires Own Consulting Business "Am proud of my diploma. I cannot say enough for the N. R. I. course. Regret I didn't take it years ago when I used to see your ads. Now I have a spare time shop." FRANK S. TUCKER, Hilton Village, Va.

I Will Train You at Home

Read How You Practice Servicing or Communications with Many Kits of Parts You Get!

YOU BUILD this modern Radio (above) as part of my Servicing Course. Build this complete, powerful Radio Receiver that brings in local and distant stations. N. R. I. gives you ALL the Radio parts . . . speaker, tubes, chassis, transformer, sockets, loop antenna, EVERYTHING you need. You use material to get practical Radio experience. Make EXTRA money fixing neighbors' Radios in spare time while training.

YOU MEASURE current, voltage (AC, DC and RF), resistance and impedance in circuits with Electronic Multitester (above right) you build as part of my Servicing or Communications Course.

YOU BUILD this Transmitter (right). As part of my Communications Course, I SEND YOU parts to build this low-power broadcasting transmitter. You learn how to put a station "on the air," perform procedures demanded of Broadcast Station operators, make many practical tests.

YOU BUILD this Wavemeter (below) in my Communications Course with parts I send you. Use it to determine frequency of operation and make other tests on transmitter currents. You conduct many interesting experiments.

NOW! Advanced Television Practice

Now, special TV kits furnished to build high-definition SCOPE . . . RF OSCILLATOR with flyback power supply . . . complete TV set . . . many other units. You use valuable PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE learning and correcting TV troubles. Mail coupon for facts, pictures and prices!

Keep your job while training at home. Hundreds I've trained are successful RADIO-TELEVISION TECHNICIANS. Most had no previous experience; many no more than grammar school education. Learn Radio-Television principles from illustrated lessons. Get PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE—build valuable Electronic Multitester for conducting tests; also practice servicing Radios or operating Transmitters—experiment with circuits common to Radio and Television. At left is just part of the equipment my students build with many kits of parts I furnish. All equipment is yours to keep. Many students make $5, $10 a week extra fixing neighbors' Radios in spare time.

Mail Coupon For 2 Books FREE

Act Now! Send for my FREE DOUBLE OFFER. Coupon entitles you to actual lesson on Servicing; shows how you learn Radio-Television at home. You'll also receive my 64-page book, "How to Be a Success in Radio-Television." You'll read what my graduates are doing, earning; see photos of equipment you practice with at home. Send coupon in envelope or paste on postal. J. E. SMITH, Pres., Dept. 2AM1 National Radio Institute, Washington 9, D. C. . . . Our 38th year.

Good for Both—FREE

Mr. J. E. SMITH, President, Dept. 2AM1
National Radio Institute, Washington 9, D. C.

Mail me Sample Lesson and 64-page Book about How to Win Success in Radio-Television. Both FREE. (No salesman will call. Please write plainly.)

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

Approved Under G. I. Bill

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WHEN THE MEULLER GANG STRUCK FIELDS

WHITEY MEULLER PLANNED EVERY STEP OF THE GREAT FIELDS CO. ROBBERY OF 1937! WHITEY AND HIS SIX ACCOMPLICES GOT IN LINE WITH SOME FORTY EMPLOYEES REPORTING FOR WORK THAT APRIL MORNING! THEY EVEN PUNCHED TIME-CARDS! THEN, MEETING AROUND THE CORNER OF THE CAREFULLY GUARDED BUILDING, THEY QUICKLY DONNED MASKS, AND SOON THE HALF-MILLION DOLLAR SNATCH WAS ON! YES, EVERY DETAIL BUT ONE, THAT IS... AND THE ALERT NEWARK, N.J. POLICE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE SLIGHT OVERSIGHT TO SPREAD THEIR NET AND HAUL IN A PRIZE CATCH!

MORE PROOF THAT **CRIME CAN'T WIN!**

GET THOSE GUARDS OUTTA SIGHT... QUICK! INSIDE! WE GOT EXACTLY FIVE MINUTES AND TEN SECONDS!

TERRY ROBINSON

9256

ALL NAMES AND PLACES IN THESE TRUE-TO-LIFE STORIES ARE FICTITIOUS
ANY SIMILARITY BETWEEN ACTUAL PERSONS OR PLACES AND THOSE USED IN THESE STORIES IS PURELY COINCIDENTAL

RUSH IN, DON'T SHOOT UNLESS YOU HAVE TO! IF YOU SHOOT, GRAB WHAT YOU CAN AND RUN! WE HAVE JUST THREE MINUTES TO DO THE WHOLE JOB! HERE GOES...

DON'T SHOOT! WE'VE GOT FAMILIES!

GET AWAY FROM THAT ALARM! BEHAVE AND YOU WON'T GET HURT! BIND THEM AND TAPE THEIR MOUTHS, BOYS! TWO MINUTES AND TEN SECONDS TO GO!

I SAID, TAKE THE MONEY BAGS.. NO TIME TO LOAD UP ON LOOSE CASH! TWENTY-TWO SECONDS TO GO...

THEY'LL BE COMING FOR THIS TRUCK IN FIVE SECONDS! EVERYBODY IN, AND LOCK ALL DOORS!

HERE THEY ARE NOW, BOSS!

FIELDS

COME ON...GET US OUT OF HERE BEFORE THIS PLACE IS CRAWLING WITH GUARDS!

THEY DIDN'T LEAVE KEYS FOR ME, JERK! I'VE GOT TO SPLICE THE IGNITION WIRES!

BANG

WATCH IT! WE'RE GOING THROUGH THE GATES!

FIELDS

I GOT ONE, WHITEY... UP ON THE WALL!

WHAT FOR? HE COULDN'T HURT US IN THIS STEEL CRATE! SAVE THE BULLETS! WE AIN'T OUT OF THE WOODS YET!

CRASH!

THEY GOT HARRISON! HOLD YOUR FIRE...YOU CAN'T PIERCE THAT ARMOR! KNUTSEN, GRAB A MOTORCYCLE ...TAIL THEM TILL THE COPS TAKE UP THE CHASE!

THERE'S A RADIO EQUIPPED MOTORCYCLE TAILING US, WHITEY! THERE'S TOO MUCH TRAFFIC TO GET A SHOT AT HIM...WHAT DO I DO?

I'LL HEAD FOR THE NEAREST HIGHWAY! IF HE STICKS TO US AFTER WE GET THERE USE THAT MACHINE GUN!

THIS IS IVAR KNUTSEN AGAIN! THE TRUCK IS HEADING WEST ON ELM... PROBABLY TOWARDS ONE OF THE HIGHWAYS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF TOWN! I'LL LET YOU KNOW WHICH ONE WHEN WE GET THERE!

STAY WITH THEM, KNUTSEN..WE'RE RELAYING YOUR INFO TO THE POLICE! THEY'RE ALREADY SETTING UP ROAD BLOCKS... GOOD LUCK!

HE'S GOT A SHIELD IN FRONT OF HIM... I POUR IT ON BUT IT BOUNCES OFF!

BRAT-TAT-TAT!

GET HIS TIRE, STUPID! STOP BOTHERING ME...THERE'S SOMETHING UP AHEAD... A ROAD BLOCK!

WATCH IT!.. HE'S NOT STOPPING! GET TO YOUR CARS AND MOTORCYCLES!

CRASH

GET READY FOR A FALL... WE'LL NEVER LOSE THOSE GUYS UNLESS I TAKE A BIG CHANCE! OUR CAR ISN'T FAR FROM HERE...

HANG ON! HERE WE GO!

THE ARMORED CAR LANDED IN DEEP BUSHES AT THE BOTTOM OF THE EMBANKMENT, HIDDEN FROM THE SPEEDING POLICE ABOVE, WHO, UNABLE TO SEE AROUND THE SWEEPING CURVES, ASSUMED THE BANDITS WERE STILL AHEAD OF THEM...

WE DITCHED THE COPS! OUTFOXED 'EM, THE FOOLS! HA HA!

THE SEDAN, WHICH HAD BEEN PLANTED NEARBY, WAS LOADED...

..SNAP IT UP BOYS! BY NOW THOSE COPS HAVE FOUND OUT THEY'RE CHASING THEIR TAILS! THEY'LL BE HEADED BACK THIS WAY...AND I WANT TO BE OUT OF THIS NEIGHBORHOOD WHEN THEY COME!

WE MADE IT, WHITEY, WE MADE IT!

A SHORT TIME LATER, DETECTIVE LIEUTENANT PAUL MEECHUM ARRIVED AT THE FIELDS COMPANY WITH MEMBERS OF THE ROBBERY SQUAD. . .AND NOT TOO LONG BEFORE REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS REACHED THE SCENE...

FOR CRYING OUT LOUD, CUT THESE ROPES, WILL YOU! MY HANDS FEEL LIKE NEEDLES ARE STICKING IN THEM, AND MY WRISTS ARE SORE!

PIPE DOWN...WE'LL BE THROUGH IN A MINUTE! HOLLISTER, LOOK HERE! YOU SPEND A LOT OF TIME OUT ON THE DOCKS, AROUND BOATS. . WHAT KIND OF KNOT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE TO YOU?

FIELDS

WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT I'M GETTING AT...THREE MEN TIED WITH FISHERMAN'S KNOTS. . ALL THREE SAY THEY WERE EACH TIED BY A DIFFERENT MEMBER OF THE GANG! WAIT, HOLLISTER, THE NOISE IN HERE IS ENOUGH TO DRIVE A GUY NUTS! COME ON OUT IN THE HALL. . I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT SOMETHING!

SURE! SURE! BUT LET ME CUT THIS GUY LOOSE BEFORE HE THROWS A FIT!

NOW, HOLLISTER, YOU REMEMBER GEORGE MEULLER! AMONG THE PENITENTIARY SET HE WAS KNOWN AS WHITEY! BUT OTHERS CALLED HIM DEEP SEA MEULLER, OR THE FISHERMAN! HE USED TO PAL AROUND WITH TWO OTHER GUYS, JOE AVALO AND MARTY GATTON! THE THREE OF THEM OWNED A FISHING SMACK

OH, SURE, ABOUT FOUR YEARS AGO THE THREE OF THEM WERE CAUGHT ON BROAD AND MARKET TRYING TO BREAK INTO A GROCERY STORE! GOT THEMSELVES THREE TO FIVE YEARS IN THE PEN! UH-HUH, THEY MIGHT BE OUT NOW!

THAT'S SOMETHING WE COULD FIND OUT FOR SURE EASILY ENOUGH! NEXT QUESTION IS, ASSUMING MEULLER DOESN'T GET CAUGHT, WHERE DO WE START LOOKING FOR HIM AND HIS MEN?

AROUND THE WATERFRONT, MOST LIKELY... ANYWHERE ALONG THE JERSEY COAST! BUT EVEN IF THEY'RE CAUGHT, THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE CAN TIE FISHERMAN'S KNOTS! THAT'S NO PROOF, MEECHUM!

IT'S TAKING A LOT FOR GRANTED, BUT ONLY THREE FISHERMEN I KNOW HAVE BEEN SENT UP FOR ATTEMPTED ROBBERY! ANYHOW, I'D LIKE TO LAY MY HANDS ON MEULLER! MAYBE I'M WRONG BUT I HAVE AN IDEA HOW TO FLUSH HIM OUT OF HIDING!

HIDING? HE MAY BE ON HIS WAY TO EUROPE WITH HIS MOB...I'D BE, WITH A HALF MILLION BUCKS IN MY KICKER! LET'S HEAR YOUR IDEA!

SO, THE FOLLOWING DAY, PLAINCLOTHES DETECTIVES SCOURED THE WATERFRONT FROM JERSEY CITY...

I DON'T KNOW NO WHITEY MILLER! WHAT DO YOU WANT HIM FOR?

NEVER MIND THAT! WE JUST WANT HIM! AND THE NAME IS MEULLER NOT MILLER!

...TO CAPE MAY ON THE SOUTH COAST OF NEW JERSEY! BUT EVEN MEN WHO KNEW WHITEY MEULLER COULDN'T TELL THE POLICE WHERE HE WAS...

YEAH, I KNOW WHITEY, BUT I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM FOR SIX, SEVEN MONTHS! WHAT'S HE DOIN' THESE DAYS?

HIDING OUT FROM THE LAW... AND HE'LL BE DOING ABOUT FIFTY YEARS AFTER WE CATCH UP WITH HIM!

THE MEULLER GANG WAS HOLED UP IN AN OLD BAYONNE TENEMENT AND ONLY ONE OF THEM, ERNIE KEATES, A DETROIT MOBSTER WITH WHOM THE NEW JERSEY AUTHORITIES WERE UNFAMILIAR, EVER VENTURED ONTO THE STREET, AND THEN ONLY FOR SHOPPING AND TO SEE IF THE HEAT WAS OFF... SUDDENLY THE STORM BROKE...

GEEZ, ERNIE, DON'T COME BUSTIN' IN THAT WAY UNLESS YOU WANT A QUICK GUT-FULL OF LEAD!

MAYBE WE'LL ALL GET A DOSE OF THAT! LOOK AT THIS NEWSPAPER, RIGHT HERE IN THE HEADLINE!

"GANG SOUGHT IN FATAL SHOOTING OF NEWARK DETECTIVE! LIEUT. DETECTIVE PAUL MEECHAM POSITIVELY IDENTIFIES GEORGE WHITEY MEULLER AND GANG AS MEN WHO SHOT HIM IN JEWELRY STORE HOLDUP AT NOON YESTERDAY..."

YOU SEE WHAT I MEAN, WHITEY! THEY GOT US TAGGED AS COP KILLERS! IF WE THINK THE HEAT WAS ON BEFORE, WAIT'LL YOU SEE WHAT HAPPENS NOW!

WHAT KIND OF A DEAL THEY GIVIN' US? WE WERE PULLIN' THE FIELDS JOB YESTERDAY! WHAT ELSE DOES IT SAY? MAYBE THERE WAS A MISTAKE!

MISTAKE, YOU DUMMY! OF COURSE IT'S A MISTAKE, BUT THAT WON'T STOP THE COPS FROM SHOOTING US ON SIGHT!

LOOK, MAYBE IF WE GIVE OURSELVES UP, PHONE IN AND TELL THEM TO COME GET US, MAYBE THEY'LL BELIEVE...

BELIEVE US, NOTHIN'! THEY'LL FIND A WAY TO MAKE THAT COP'S DEATH STICK TO US! WE'RE GETTIN' OUT, AND FAST! I AIN'T GOIN' TO BE NO HOT SEAT BAIT FOR SOMETHING WE DIDN'T DO... NOT WITH HALF A MILLION BUCKS WAITIN' TO BE SPENT!

WHERE WE GO DOESN'T MATTER, WE'LL FERRY OVER TO NEW YORK... NOBODY'D EXPECT US TO TAKE A SLOW ROUTE, WE STASH THE MONEY HERE... WE TRAVEL LIGHT... A COUPLE OF HUNDRED BUCKS EACH... OUR GUNS AND AMMO! WE STICK TOGETHER IN CASE THERE'S A FIGHT! NOW LET'S SEE WHERE WE HIDE THAT 500 G'S!

HALF AN HOUR LATER... BENNY, LOOK DOWN THERE... SEE THOSE MEN... THEY LOOK SUSPICIOUS, LOOK AT THIS PHOTO OF WHITEY MEULLER AGAIN...

I DON'T HAVE TO, BILL! WE COULD TIP THE OTHER MEN BUT LET'S GET IN THE MIDDLE OF THE RNER! THEN WE GOT 'EM!

SO FAR SO GOOD, WHITEY... WHITEY! COPPERS! I KNOW ONE OF THEM!

NO GATS! THERE'S SEVEN OF US! STICK TOGETHER! WE CAN HANDLE THOSE TWO EASY!

YOU'RE A BIG MAN, MEULLER...WITH A FACE... JUST MADE FOR PUNCHING!

UNGH!

THE ODDS PROVED TOO MUCH FOR THE TWO DETECTIVES AND THEY WERE FINALLY SUBDUED...

TOSS THESE TWO HAWKSHAWS OVER THE SIDE ...I SHOULD MAKE FISH BAIT OUT OF 'EM FIRST..

BUT THE SOUNDS OF THE FIGHT BROUGHT THE OTHER DETECTIVES, PLANTED ON THE OTHER END OF THE FERRY!

DROP THAT KNIFE, WHITEY!

LINE UP, FACE TO THE WALL AND HANDS UP.

THE MEULLER MOB HAD THE WHOLE NIGHT, IN A BAYONNE JAIL, TO PONDER ITS FUTURE! BY MORNING THEY HAD COME TO A DECISION..SEEMINGLY THE ONLY POSSIBLE ONE! THERE APPEARED TO BE A CHOICE BETWEEN A LONG STRETCH IN PRISON FOR THE FIELDS CO. ROBBERY (WHERE THE VICTIMS HAD LIVED) AND FACING THE CHAIR FOR THE ALLEGED MURDER OF DETECTIVE PAUL MEECHAM! THEY CHOSE THE FORMER, AND LED THE POLICE TO THEIR RECENTLY DESERTED HIDEOUT!

A HALF MILLION IN COLD CASH!

I TOLD YOU WE DIDN'T KILL MEECHUM... WE COULDN'T BE OVER AT BROAD AND MARKET AT THE SAME TIME WE WERE STICKING UP FIELDS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF TOWN!

WHAT WAS THAT YOU WERE SAYING, WHITEY MEULLER?

WE'VE BEEN SUCKED IN! MEECHUM AIN'T DEAD! YOU DIRTY LYIN' COPS! I'LL BEAT THAT DUMB GRIN OFF YOUR KISSER.. I'LL MAKE YOU WISH YOU WAS DEAD, MEECHUM!

LET HIM COME, MEN...THIS IS GOING TO BE A PLEASURE!

THAT'S ALL, MEULLER!

OHHH

WHITEY MEULLER AND HIS GANG THOUGHT THEY COULD COMMIT A PERFECT CRIME, THEIR IDENTITIES CONCEALED BY MASKS LIKE THIS AND WEARING GLOVES TO PREVENT FINGER PRINTS! BUT ALL CRIMINALS LEAVE THEIR MARK IN SOME WAY! THE MEULLER GANG LEFT THEIRS IN A SIMPLE KNOT! MODERN CRIME DETECTION EVENTUALLY TRAPS THEM ALL!

THUS WITHIN A FORTY-EIGHT HOUR PERIOD, CLEVER AND COURAGEOUS POLICE WORK TRAPPED WHITEY MEULLER'S HALF MILLION DOLLAR ROBBERY GANG! THEY ARE STILL BEHIND THE BARS OF THE N. J. STATE PENITENTIARY!

THE END

STICK-UP CLEAN-UP!

AS the church clock chimed out the noon hour, Corsin Steen finished his soda and slapped a dollar bill down on the counter. "Keep the change," he told the startled counterman as he slipped off the stool and made his way out into the street. At the end of the block, he saw Les Taine round the far corner and started walking toward him.

Les tossed the newspaper he was carrying into the street. Good! That was the signal for everything being all right at his end. It meant that Eric Mann was to be waiting around the corner in the getaway car exactly as he was supposed to, that the motor was running and that Eric was all set to drive around the block slowly and to be passing in front of the Fifth Avenue Management Company in exactly five minutes.

That was what made the difference. Corsin Steen decided, between a really big-shot criminal like himself and a second-rater. Only a big-shot criminal would have thought of a casual signal like having Les Taine throw away a newspaper, a gesture that dozens of businessmen made every day all over the city. And only a big-shot criminal would have thought of using a church clock's chimes to assemble his men at exactly the same moment from three different directions! In the middle of the block, he saw Henny Arnolds crossing the street slowly as he threaded his way through the rapidly-moving, lunch-hour traffic.

Arnolds was the first man to enter the street entrance of the Fifth Avenue Management Company — exactly as Corsin Steen had planned. A moment later, Corsin himself reached the wide-open glass doors and sauntered against the press of stenographers and clerks hurrying outside to get their lunch.

He turned for one moment to observe that Les Taine had taken up his position in front of the street door, to serve as lookout man and help them into the car when they charged out.

Well, that was organization for you! Not for nothing had he sat up nights over floor plans and street plans, rehearsing his men over and over again, until they were maneuver-perfect, until each of them could have done his part in the proposed payroll robbery while walking in his sleep!

"Remember," he'd warned them. "This is a five hundred thousand dollar payroll. That's over a grand apiece. It's simple, really simple if we do it right. And by right, I mean like a machine, with each part meshing into the next. If we get sloppy, if we make one mistake, we'll have only ourselves to blame. So let's run through it again."

And they'd run through it again. Making believe that the living room of their hideaway bungalow was Stadiumville's Fifth Avenue, moving chairs and couches to simulate buildings, they'd gone over their roles in the hold-up yet another time and *still* another time.

Eric Mann to drive the getaway car in front of the office five minutes after they'd gone inside.

Les Taine to stand guard outside and help them into the car with their loot.

Henny Arnolds to do the direct stick-up work and the money-snatching.

Corsin Steen to cover him, take care of the payroll guard and keep everything coordinated.

Everything depended on proper coordination. Everything had to work exactly as planned. That was the reason for the church-chime assembly, for the thrown-away newspaper signal to signify the car was running all right and was in its proper place.

"No sloppiness," Corsin Steen said to himself and smiled as he strolled behind the guard who was talking to a pretty office girl.

Up ahead, he saw Henny Arnolds walk around a railing and into the bookkeeping section where a white-haired old man was putting a large black satchel into an enormous safe. That satchel contained the entire payroll of the Fifth Avenue Management Company which had been assembled in individual envelopes before lunch and would be given to the employees later

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT STORY...

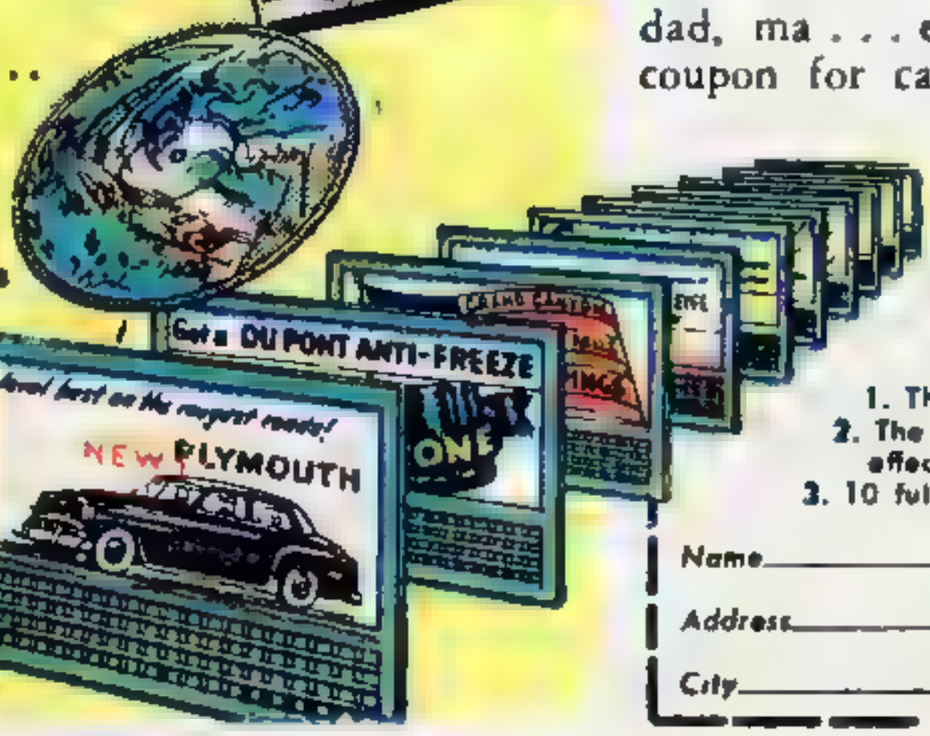
Here it is fellas! send for it NOW!

THE GREATEST RAILROAD SHOW ON EARTH!

Fun...Thrills...Action see special coupon offer!

SPECIAL COUPON OFFER
ALL FOR 25¢

See all the Lionel Trains and accessories in Catalogue


HEAR Bells . . . whistles . . . horns . . . on this railroad sound effects record.
Get a DU PONT ANTI-FREEZE
NEW PLYMOUTH
TEN FULL-COLOR BILLBOARDS

This Christmas be one of the many lucky boys to get a set of realistic Lionel Trains. Here's how — start now by getting this thrilling, fun-filled 36-page Lionel catalogue in full color. It's complete with trains, accessories and track layout ideas. Show the trains you want to dad, ma . . . everybody. Send coupon for catalogue, plus a 5½" double-faced phonograph record* of steam train and Diesel sound effects. Plus 10 full-color realistic billboards. Do it now, see Lionel Trains — world's finest for over 50 years — in the catalogue, hear them in action on this wonderful record. Write for this big special offer now, or see catalogue at your dealer's.

**Plays on all 78 RPM phonographs except some fixed spindle or automatic changers.*

LIONEL TRAINS, Post Office Box 322,
Madison Square Station, New York, N. Y.

I enclose 25¢. Please send me special Lionel Train catalogue offer, postage prepaid.

1. The new 36-page full-color Lionel catalogue.
2. The new 5½" double-faced record of whistles, bells, railroad sound effects and Diesel horns.
3. 10 full-color miniature billboards.

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____

THE BLACK PILLS!

HURRY WITH THOSE CRASH WAGONS! IF THEY LIVE THROUGH THIS, THEY'LL BE A LUCKY BUNCH OF PILOTS!

THAT MURDERING DEVIL, SIMMONS! NOT BAD ENOUGH HE SWINDLED US... HE HAD TO RISK THE LIVES OF THOSE POOR PILOTS! BLAST HIM AND HIS BLACK PILLS!

TIME: 1945!
PLACE: OHIO!
CRIME: SWINDLE!

DAN LOPRIN

9226

EVERY DAY PEOPLE CONTINUE TO PROVE THE OLD ADAGE, "THERE'S A SUCKER BORN EVERY MINUTE!" JUST SIX YEARS AGO A SMOOTH-TALKING SWINDLER NAMED NEIL SIMMONS LANDED AT FLEETFIELD OHIO, AND PERPETRATED WHAT ALMOST AMOUNTED TO A RIDICULOUS HOAX... AND YET, IT NOT ONLY ACTUALLY HAPPENED, BUT ALMOST ENDED IN TRAGEDY!

NO ONE PAID ANY ATTENTION TO THE PRIVATE PLANE THAT LANDED AT THE SMALL AIRPORT IN FLEETFIELD, OHIO, OR TO THE SLICK-LOOKING CHARACTER WHO GOT OUT...

WHAT'LL YOURS BE, FLYBOY?

OH, A COUPLE OF HAMBURGERS, I GUESS... AND A CUP OF COFFEE!

STAYING OVER, FRIEND? WE HAVE SORT OF A CLUBHOUSE ON THE FIELD WHERE YOU CAN GET A BED OVERNIGHT!

NO, I'M ON MY WAY TO LOS ANGELES... TRYING TO INTEREST SOMEONE OUT THERE IN A LITTLE BUSINESS IDEA OF MINE!

UGH! THE MERE MENTION OF BUSINESS MAKES ME THINK OF A STUFFY OFFICE! I'LL DO ANYTHING, AS LONG AS IT'S IN A PLANE... I'LL DUST CROPS, SKYWRITE, OR FLY IN RACES!

I'M RIGHT WITH YOU THERE! YOU SEE, I'M FROM PENNSYLVANIA, WORKED AS A CHEMIST IN AN OIL REFINERY UNTIL I PERFECTED MY PILL!

OH? WHAT KIND OF A PILL?

A HIGH TEST FUEL PILL! THEY CAN FORGET GASOLINE WHEN THAT GOES ON SALE!

OKAY, PAL, I'M SORRY I ASKED! FUEL PILL, HUH?

FUEL WHAT? WHAT'S THAT BIRDBOY TALKING ABOUT, KEN?

A FUEL PILL, JERRY! THIS CHARACTER IS GOING TO PUT THE OIL COMPANIES OUT OF BUSINESS... HE WAS INVENTED A PILL... HIGH TEST, NO LESS, TO TAKE THE PLACE OF GASOLINE!

UH OH... ONE OF THOSE, EH?

BOYS, YOUR ATTENTION, PLEASE! YOU DON'T KNOW WHO'S AMONG US... MATTER OF FACT... I DON'T, EITHER, BUT HE'S INVENTED A PILL! YEP, A PILL WHICH, WHEN DUNKED IN YOUR GAS TANKS, WILL LET YOU FLY FROM HERE TO THE MOON!

HA! HA! CUT IT OUT, JERRY... YOU WANT ME TO CHOKE ON THIS STEAK?

I SEEM TO DETECT A FACETIOUS TONE IN YOUR VOICE!

GRACIOUS, NO! STEP RIGHT UP AND GET YOUR SAMPLE PILLS, GENTS!

HA! HA! THERE GOES THE FLYING PILL!

AW, DON'T MIND THE BOYS, MISTER...THEY ENJOY RIBBING A STRANGER! YOU WANT ME TO FILL YOUR TANK?

YES, PLEASE... WITH WATER!

YES, SIR... WATER...DID YOU SAY WATER, MISTER?

THAT'S RIGHT... PLEASE FILL MY TANK WITH WATER!

WELL, I DID WHAT YOU SAID, FRIEND... YOUR TANK IS FULL... OF WATER!

THANKS VERY MUCH! NOW IF YOU'LL GIVE ME ROOM TO TAKE OFF...

HOLY CATFISH! THE DARNED ENGINE IS ACTUALLY TURNING OVER ON THAT STUFF!

NUTS! HE PROBABLY HAD PLENTY OF GAS IN HIS TANK, ALREADY!

IF HE DID, IT WOULD GO TO THE TOP OF THE WATER, WOULDN'T IT? OIL FLOATS ON WATER! BUT HIS TANK WAS JUST ABOUT EMPTY... I KNOW...I JUST FILLED IT... IT TOOK ABOUT EIGHTY GALLONS!

HEY, MISTER! WAIT A MINUTE!

DON'T GO AWAY! WE WANT TO HAVE A TALK WITH YOU!

WHAT'S THAT? I CAN'T HEAR... DID I FORGET SOMETHING? WAIT'LL I CUT MY MOTOR!

LISTEN, MISTER! I'M NOT QUITE SURE WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT...I JUST GOT HERE IN TIME TO SEE YOUR PLANE BEING FILLED WITH WATER, AND THAT BLACK PILL DROPPED IN! DID THAT *REALLY* WORK? I MEAN, DID THAT PILL ACTUALLY TURN THE WATER INTO GASOLINE?

NOT GASOLINE! I'VE NEVER CLAIMED IT WOULD DO THAT! AS A MATTER OF FACT, MY SYNTHETIC FUEL GIVES THREE TIMES THE MILEAGE PER GALLON AS GASOLINE... AND EACH PILL WOULD SELL FOR A DOLLAR LESS!

FRIEND, I OWE YOU AN APOLOGY! I THOUGHT YOU WERE HANDING ME A LOT OF PROP WASH! I'LL TELL YOU WHAT...TO SHOW YOU HOW SORRY I AM, I'LL INVEST MY OWN MONEY IN YOUR COMPANY!

HOW KIND OF YOU! I'M FULLY AWARE OF THE VALUE OF MY PILLS... I'M SURE MY CONTACT IN L.A. WILL FINANCE ME!

WHY NOT GIVE YOUR FELLOW PILOTS A BREAK? THIS IS MY AIRPORT... I'LL LET YOU HAVE PART OF IT TO SET UP A FACTORY...I'LL GLADLY PUT UP TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS AS A STARTER!

WELL, BEING A FLIER MYSELF, I'D LIKE TO SPREAD THIS THING AMONG THE BOYS! IT'LL TAKE ABOUT TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND! IT'LL HAVE TO BE IN CASH, HOWEVER...I HAVE NO MONEY OF MY OWN, SO THE MATERIALS WILL HAVE TO BE PAID FOR IN CASH... I'VE NO TIME TO WASTE, EITHER...IF I CAN'T GET THE MONEY, I'LL HAVE TO RETURN TO MY JOB... OR LOSE IT!

CASH IT SHALL BE! THE BANK WILL BE OPEN FOR ANOTHER TWO HOURS!

LATER THAT AFTERNOON...

I'VE JUST CROSSED OUT THE NAME OF MY LOS ANGELES PROSPECT FROM THIS CONTRACT AND REPLACED IT WITH FLEETFIELD, INC., AND ADDED YOUR NAMES AT THE END! I'VE SIGNED, MR. HOYT, AND NOW YOU CAN SIGN!

SPLENDID! AND HERE'S YOUR 25 THOUSAND FOR A 50 PERCENT SHARE OF THE COMPANY!

I GUESS THAT DOES IT, SIMMONS! WHAT SAY TO A LITTLE CELEBRATION? YOU CAN STAY AT MY PLACE TONIGHT IF YOU'D LIKE...

THANKS JUST THE SAME, MR. HOYT, BUT THE QUICKER I GET HOME TO ORDER THE NECESSARY MATERIALS, THE QUICKER WE CAN START COLLECTING ON OUR INVESTMENT! I'D RATHER LEAVE AT ONCE!

I'LL BE BACK WITHIN A WEEK, MR. HOYT! MEANWHILE, I'M LEAVING THESE PILLS HERE FOR THE USE OF YOUR PILOTS AND YOURSELF!

HOT DOG! YOU HEAR THAT, HERMAN... GET BUSY AND LOAD MY TANK WITH WATER! FROM NOW ON I FLY ON NOTHING BUT PILLS!

SNAP TO IT... FROM NOW ON I'M SPENDING MY TIME IN THE AIR! I CAN AFFORD IT!

I THINK THESE GUYS HAVE ALL GONE BATTY!

BOY, THAT TOOK SOME SMOOTH TALKING! NOW, WE'LL MAKE THOSE TEXAS OIL MILLIONAIRES LOOK LIKE SOME POOR RELATIVES!

OKAY, YOU BIRDS...I GOT FIVE OF YOUR PLANES READY! COME DROP YOUR PILLS IN...AND GIVE ME TIME TO GET FAR AWAY FROM HERE!

WELL, I'LL BE DARNED! THOSE PILLS ARE WORKING! THEIR TANKS WERE CLEAN BEFORE I FILLED THEM WITH WATER, AND I THOUGHT IT WAS SOME KIND OF A GAG!

THE GASOLINE REMAINING IN THE FUEL LINES OF THE PLANES WAS ENOUGH TO GET THEM OFF THE GROUND, BUT WHEN THAT WAS USED UP...

GET THE CRASH WAGONS... QUICK! DON'T JUST STAND HERE! BY HEAVEN, WE'VE ALL BEEN DUPED... SWINDLED!

BUT YOU'VE GOT TO STOP HIM! HE NOT ONLY ROOKED US OUT OF TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS, BUT SOME OF THE FLIERS HERE MAY HAVE BEEN KILLED BECAUSE OF HIM!

FIRST TIME I EVER HEARD OF THAT GIMMICK BEING PULLED ON PLANES... IT USED TO WORK ON GULLIBLE MOTORISTS! THAT CHISELER JUST HAD HIS REAL GAS TANK INSIDE THE PLANE! WE'LL CONTACT THE F.B.I.!

C.A.P. GOT THE SWIFT COOPERATION OF THE F.B.I., AND AN ASSIST FROM THE ARMY AIR FORCE! THE FORMER SUPPLYING AN AGENT, THE LATTER FURNISHING A PLANE AND PILOT! THE C.A.P. SENT OUT PLANES, ONE OF WHICH LOCATED SIMMONS' SHIP AND KEPT IT IN SIGHT...

THIS SIMMONS DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE A RADIO...I CAN'T CONTACT HIM...I'LL BUZZ HIM... SEE IF HE'LL LAND!

WHAT THE DICKENS! THAT LUNATIC! UH OH! THEY'RE SIGNALING ME TO GO DOWN! LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE CAUGHT ON TO MY GAME BACK AT FLEETFIELD! I DIDN'T EXPECT THEM TO TRY THE PILLS SO SOON! I'D BETTER PLAY DUMB! IT'LL BE DARK SOON!

WE'VE BUZZED HIM FIVE TIMES, KELLY! HE KNOWS WHAT WE MEAN, BUT HE'S IGNORING US! THIS TIME I'LL GIVE HIM A LITTLE LEAD THROUGH THE WING... I THINK THAT'LL DO THE TRICK!

ROGER! WILL DO!

THAT DIRTY... OKAY, I'LL GO DOWN... BUT YOU STILL WONT GET ME!

STAY BACK, YOU CRAZY FOOL... BACK, OR I'LL KILL YOU!

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE MISSED, SIMMONS... YOU WON'T GET ANOTHER CHANCE TO SHOOT!

BANG!

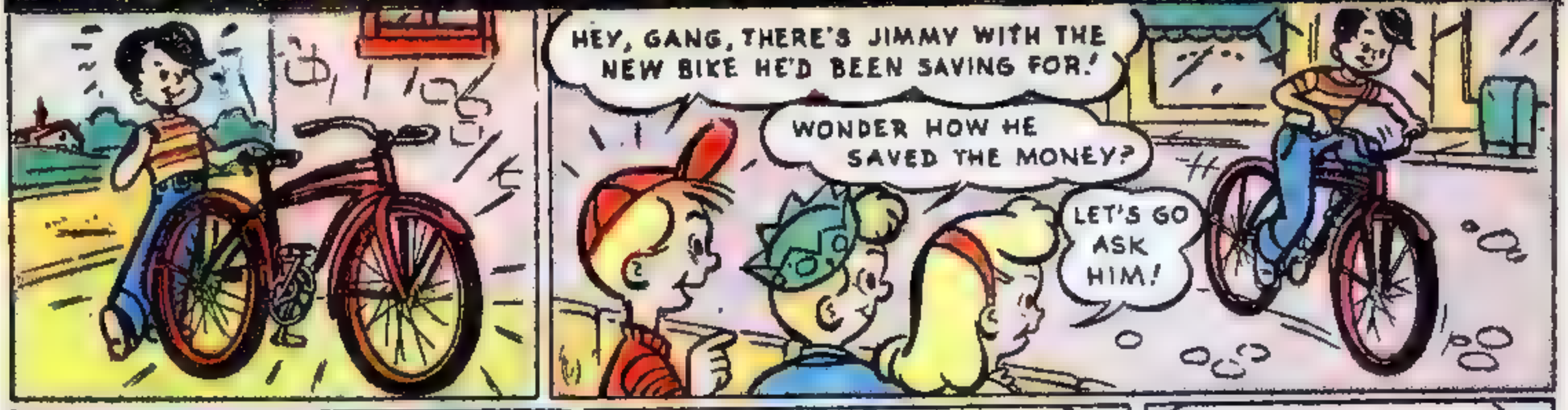
DROP IT, SIMMONS!

LET GO... YOU'RE BREAKING MY WRIST! I'LL KILL YOU FOR THIS... UGHHH!

FORTUNATELY FOR THE FLIERS AT FLEETFIELD, NONE OF THEM WERE SERIOUSLY HURT! THEIR MONEY WAS RECOVERED AND RETURNED TO THEM! SIMMONS DIDN'T FARE SO WELL, HOWEVER... AND HE STILL HAS FOUR MORE YEARS TO FINISH HIS TEN YEAR TERM IN THE FEDERAL PENITENTIARY!

THE END

HOW JIMMY GOT HIS NEW BIKE!


HEY, GANG, THERE'S JIMMY WITH THE NEW BIKE HE'D BEEN SAVING FOR!
WONDER HOW HE SAVED THE MONEY?
LET'S GO ASK HIM!
IT WAS EASY TO SAVE MONEY WITH MY NEW TELEVISION BANK!
WHEN RELATIVES, NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS VISITED, THEY ALL PUT COINS IN THE TELEVISION BANK TO SEE IT LIGHT UP!
IN JUST NO TIME, I SAVED ENOUGH MONEY TO BUY THIS NIFTY BIKE!
HEY KIDS! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
WE'RE GOING TO SEND IN OUR COUPONS FOR A TELEVISION BANK!

LOTS OF FUN AND MONEY!

WITH THIS

TELEVISION BANK

LIGHTS UP!

LIKE BIGGEST, COSTLIEST TELEVISION SETS!

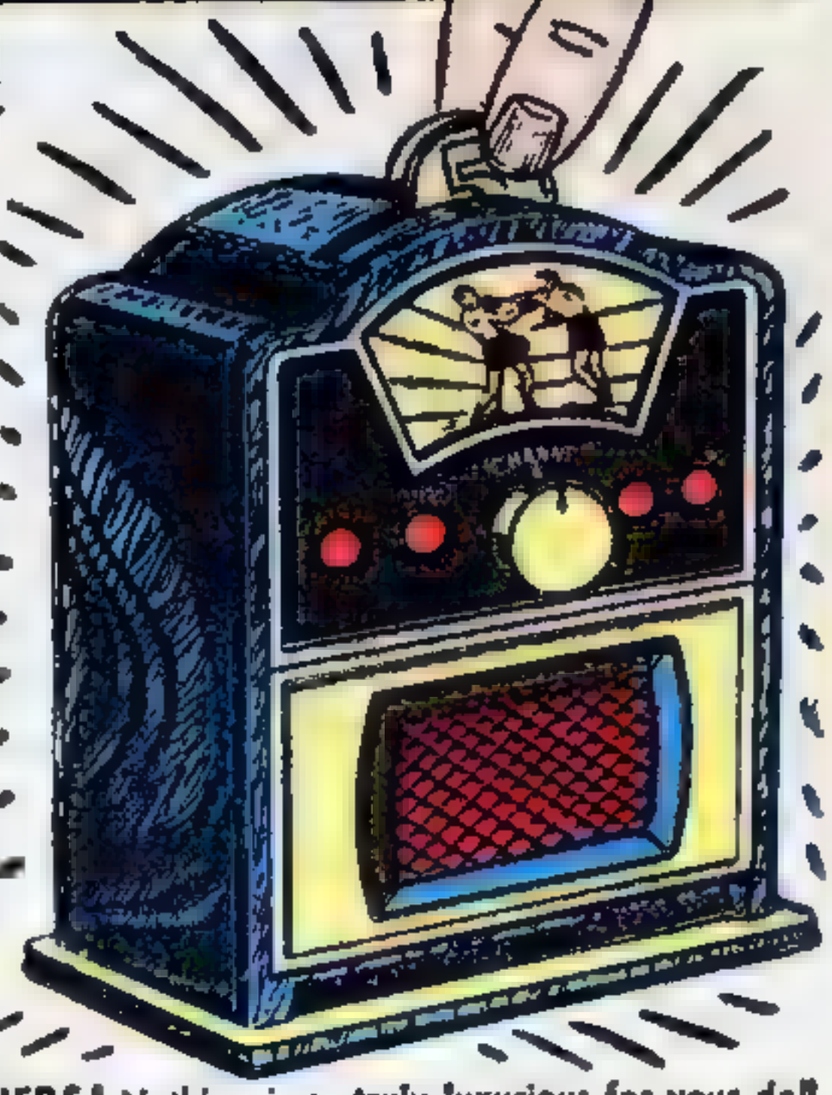
- SHOWS BRILLIANT PICTURES IN FULL COLOR!
- HITS EVERY TELEVISION HIGH . . . FIGHTS AND ALL!
- THRILLS YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS POP-EYED!
- AND . . . MAKES YOUR SAVINGS MOUNT UP FAST!

ALL-STEEL CONSTRUCTION

ONLY $1.98

COMPLETE WITH BATTERY AND BULB!

GUARANTEED to DELIGHT YOU! Bank comes complete with bulb, battery and strong key for opening and emptying your wealth of savings.



BIGGEST ATTRACTION EVER!

Everyone will want to see this amazing new Television Bank. Your friends, relatives and neighbors can't resist putting in coins to see this sensational show!

LIGHTS UP THE INSTANT YOU DROP COIN! Just insert a penny, nickel, dime or quarter into the slot on top. In a split second your spectacular Television Bank lights up—in a big, BIG way! The screen leaps into dazzling life with the brightest, clearest, pictures yet!

TURN OF KNOB SHOWS NEXT EXCITING PICTURE! After you've looked your admiring fill at one picture, just turn center knob for next thrill-packed "show". Light goes out automatically as new picture appears. To light new picture, bank another coin. SIX exciting pictures—a fight, a hilarious cartoon, a tense rodeo scene, a swell figure skater, a dramatic dance team and a circus clown with his trick dog!

PUTS YOU "IN THE MONEY"—AND FAST! Your savings pile up PLENTY FAST with this marvelous new Television Bank! Everyone wants to see all six pictures—your savings grow and grow by leaps and bounds!

IT'S A HONEY IN EVERY DETAIL! This sensational Television Bank is an exact miniature of the most expensive console models. Rich-looking mahogany finish with four simulated dials and speaker grille. 4¾" x 4" and ruggedly constructed. Will give you years of fun and big savings!

GIRLS! DOLL HOUSE OWNERS! Nothing is so truly luxurious for your doll house. This beautiful new Television bank matches all styles of furniture. It makes an elegant addition to your doll's living room!

SEAGEE CO., Dept. 4 B B , 2 Allen St., New York 2, N. Y.

BE THE FIRST IN YOUR CROWD TO HAVE THIS WONDERFUL NEW TELEVISION BANK! SEND NO MONEY! ORDER YOURS TODAY!

SEAGEE CO.,
Dept. 4BB
2 Allen Street,
New York 2, N. Y.

Please rush me my TELEVISION BANK. I agree to pay postman $1.98 plus few cents postage with understanding that if I am not delighted I may return bank in 5 days for full refund of purchase price.

Name _____
(Please Print Plainly)

Street _____

City _____ Zone ____ State _____

☐ I enclose $1.98. You pay postage. Same money-back guarantee

in the afternoon.

Henny pulled out his gun and pointed it at the old man who stared at him with his mouth open. At the same moment, Corsin stabbed his revolver into the back of the guard and said in a low voice: "This is a stick-up, mister. If you so much as twitch a muscle, I'll blast your insides clear across the room! And as for you, sister," he muttered to the pop-eyed girl, "if you don't relax and keep talking to your boy-friend here in a nice, friendly fashion, there won't be enough left of either of you to put in one coffin!"

Then, while the girl gasped and swallowed, finally managing to continue her conversation, he plucked the guard's gun out of its holster and shoved it in his own pocket. Henny had grabbed the black satchel away from the head bookkeeper, who still stood there, completely petrified, and was slowly backing away.

No one, Corsin observed exultantly, outside of the three people they'd had to threaten, had observed the robbery so far. Everyone had forgotten office affairs in the pleasure of the luncheon break. Far better than he'd expected: this was one clean job!

He glanced over his shoulder at Henny reached him and covered the guard. Yes, he could see Les Taine still standing in the entrance. Les could protect them if necessary.

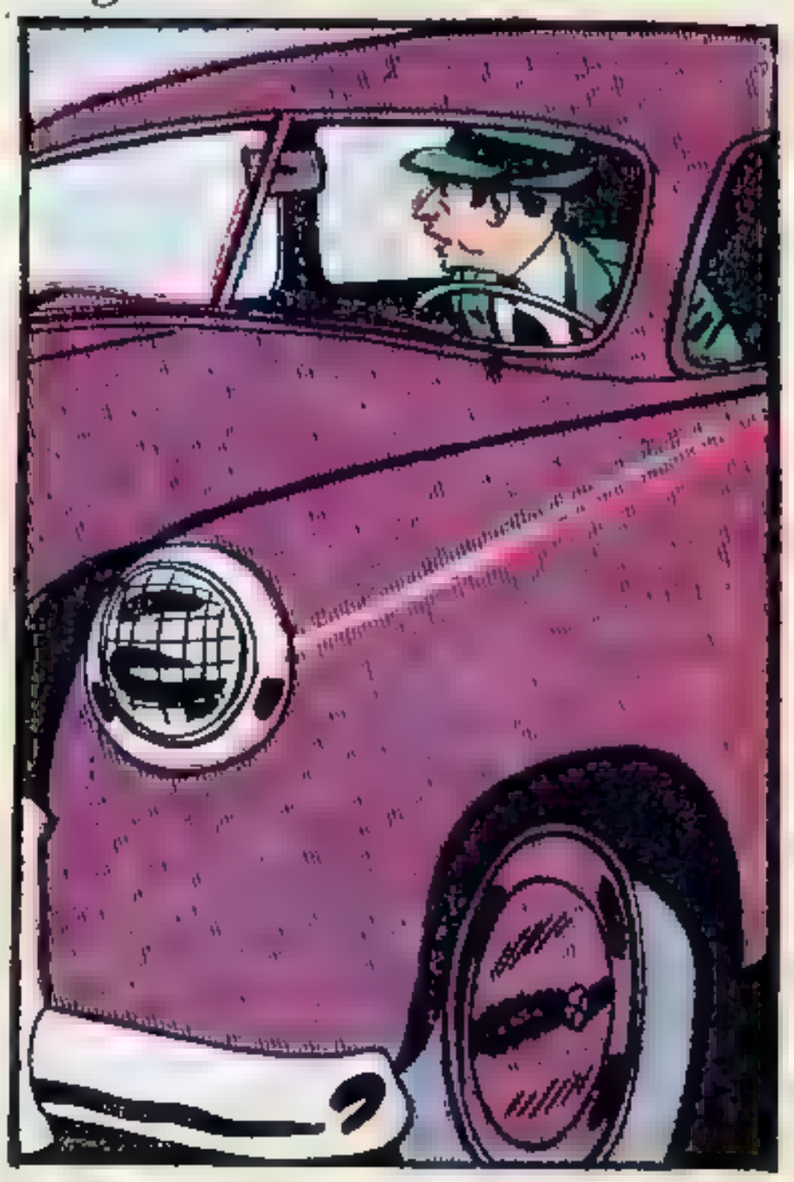
"All set," he told Henny. "Let's go. And you two," he admonished the guard and the girl, "we'll be moving backwards and our guns will still be on your necks. So don't move if you know what's good for you!"

Side by side, he and Henny moved back.

"Five hundred thousand!" Henny exulted.

"Keep your mind on business," Corsin warned him. "Let's not get sloppy now!"

At the doors, they turned in unison and prepared to race for the car. But they didn't, even though the car was there, out in the street with its motor running.



Because the car was surrounded by a small army of policemen, all with guns drawn and pointing at Henny and Corsin. Eric Mann was on the sidewalk standing sheepishly beside Les Taine, their revolvers at their feet. Evidently the cops had been waiting.

"Allow me to introduce myself," said a man who was obviously an official. "I am Inspector Martin. These are all my good men and true. We only intended to arrest Mr. Taine here, but when we saw you two committing that stick-up inside, we decided to take you along too, once you came out. And when the getaway car drove up, we figured out what it was and took Mr. Mann in custody as well. Only we kept Taine here in the entrance so you wouldn't get suspicious."

"But what — *how* —" Corsin Steen stuttered as he and Henny dropped their guns and raised their arms. "Who told you about the stick-up—I mean, how did you come to arrest Les Taine?"

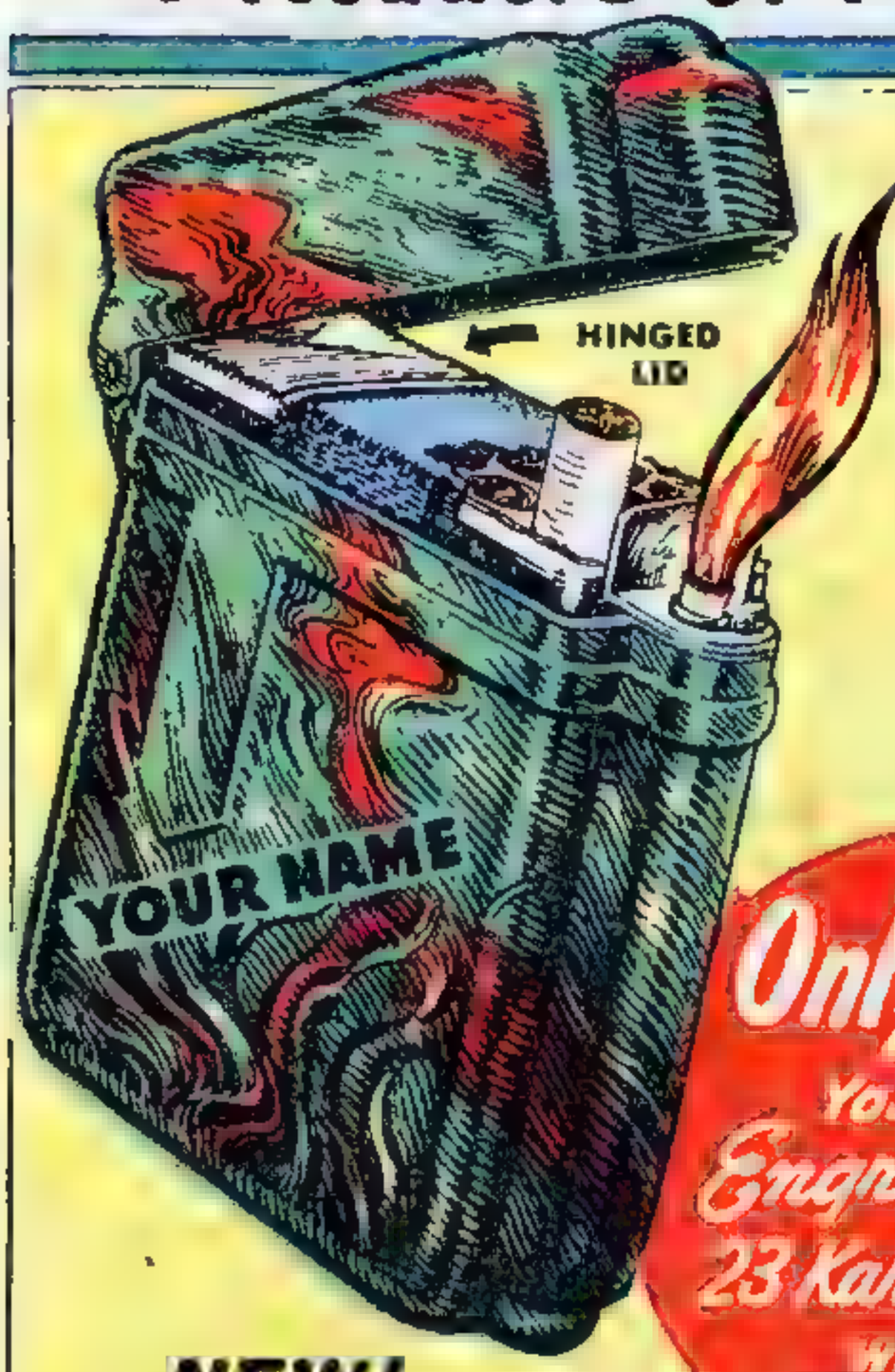
"We didn't know a thing about the stick-up," Inspector Martin chuckled. "Did we Arthur, eh, Abe? No, we were just inaugurating Keep-the-Sidewalks-Clean Week which starts at noon today. And in order to drive the idea home and get a little publicity, we decided to patrol the business area of Stadiumville with a full squad of policemen and make a big fuss about arresting the first man to litter the streets after the church clock chimed. When Taine here threw the newspaper into the street, we started moving in on him from all directions. That's how we stumbled into the stick-up. You might say it's your own fault, you see. Pure sloppiness!"

THE END 9460

SPECIAL...

INTRODUCTORY OFFER

to Readers of Marvel Comics



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FOR MEN AND WOMEN

Only $1.98
Your Name Engraved in 23 Karat Gold without Extra Cost

MAY I PLEASE HAVE A CIGARETTE, JOHN?
SURE — THEY'RE HERE SOMEPLACE
WHY — THEY'RE ALL BENT!
GOSH, NOW I CAN'T FIND A MATCH!
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL CASE AND LIGHTER!
MAY I HELP?
HAVE A CIGARETTE AND A LIGHT
HEY! WHERE CAN I GET A COMBINATION CASE AND LIGHTER LIKE THAT?
JUST SEND A COUPON TO H&S SALES IN CHICAGO!
I'LL GET ONE, TOO. WHAT A MAN!

NEW! IMPROVED!

All-in-One Cigarette Lighter and Full-Pack Case gives you a cigarette and a light—BOTH at the same time! Smart, streamlined and modern. This wonderful convenience is compact . . . fits easily in your pocket or purse. No more tobacco crumbs. No more bent or damp cigarettes. Insures lasting freshness. Deep well lighter holds an amazingly large supply of fluid. Built for lifetime service of beautiful mottled plastic. Only lighter case with hinged lid. Opens with a snap of your finger. Your name engraved on case in 23 Karat gold letters. An ideal gift for men or women. Order Now.

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Just mail name and address for trial inspection and approval. On arrival deposit $1.98 plus C.O.D. postage. Use 10 days. If not delighted return for refund of purchase price. (Send cash, H & S Sales Co. pays postage.)

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CLIP AND MAIL COUPON NOW

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Please rush combination cigarette case and lighter. I will pay postman only $1.98 plus C.O.D. postage on arrival. I may return in 10 days for refund of purchase price if not delighted. (Send cash, H & S Sales Co. pays postage.)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE ____ STATE _____

NAME TO BE ENGRAVED _____
(Print Plainly)

FINGERS OF FIRE

A COUPLE OF THE BOYS HAVE EATEN A LOT OF SMOKE, LIEUTENANT KEVIN, BUT THE INHALATORS HAVE BROUGHT THEM AROUND! THIS THING LOOKS LIKE IT'LL BURN FOR ANOTHER TWO HOURS!

YEAH, I GUESS SO, McMANN! JUST KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE OTHER PIERS... KEEP 'EM WET! THERE GOES THE WALL ON THE OTHER SIDE! GET EVERYONE BACK! THE OTHER WALLS CAN'T LAST MUCH LONGER!

AW, COME OFF IT, RORY! DON'T TELL ME YOU JUST CAME ALONG FOR THE BOAT RIDE! THE HEAD OF THE ARSON DETAIL DOESN'T JUST GO TO ANY OLD FIRE! WHAT'S THE DOPE!

YOU KNOW WHAT THE SITUATION HAS BEEN AS WELL AS I DO, HAMLER! ELEVEN WAREHOUSES LOADED WITH ALL KINDS OF GOODS HAVE BURNED IN THE LAST TWO MONTHS! FIRES LIKE THAT JUST DON'T HAPPEN! WE CHECKED ON THE COMPANIES THAT OWNED THEM, AND EVERYONE WAS IN TIGHT FINANCIAL STRAITS... AND THAT INSURANCE SURE HELPED... ONLY TRY AND PROVE ANYTHING!

TIME: JULY, 1947!

PLACE: BROOKLYN!

CRIME: ARSON!

9253

MEANWHILE, IN THE CELLAR OF BLACKELL WAREHOUSE IN BROOKLYN...

FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD, HARRY AREN'T YOU EVER SATISFIED? ONE OF THESE DAYS YOU'RE GOING TO GET CAUGHT RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR OWN HANDIWORK!

YEAH, YEAH, I'M COMING THE BOSS SAYS TO MAKE SURE SO I'M MAKING SURE!

HEROSENE

SAY 'WHAT THE DEVIL ARE YOU DOING HERE?

CHEEZ IT, FLIP! THE WATCHMAN! HE'LL YELL!

A BUCK SAYS HE DOESN'T!

JULY 18 1947

GET OUT OF... OHHH!

YOU'RE WHACKY, FLIP...THAT SHOT SOUNDED LIKE A CANNON IN THIS PLACE! YOU THINK THE PEOPLE IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD ARE DEAF? NOW WE GOT TO RUN FOR IT!

CRACK

...SMELL SMOKE...GOT TO..CALL FIRE...DEPARTMENT! THOSE THUGS...HAVE STARTED...FIRE IN THE CELLAR!

GOT TO...BREAK THE GLASS! THERE.

FIRE

POP! POP VITALE! WHERE ARE YOU?

WAREHOUSE NO 2

WITH NO THOUGHT OF HIS OWN SAFETY, OFFICER FRANK O'NEIL RUSHED TO THE AID OF WATCHMAN DOMINICK VITALE...

G-GET OUT, FRANK ...IT'S NO GOOD FOR YOU TO DIE TOO! THEY SHOT ME...I...I CAN'T MAKE IT!

SAVE YOUR BREATH, POP... THE MORE YOU TALK, THE MORE SMOKE YOU'LL INHALE!

YOU'LL BE OKAY, POP, TILL I GET AN AMBULANCE HERE!

THANKS, FRANK... YOU'RE A GOOD, BRAVE MAN!

IT WAS AN HOUR AND A HALF BEFORE DETECTIVE RORY RECEIVED NEWS OF THE BROOKLYN WAREHOUSE FIRE...

I HEARD A FLASH OVER THE RADIO JUST FIVE MINUTES AGO, RORY THAT BLACKELL WAREHOUSE BLAZE IS A PIP, THEY SAY! ANY ANSWER FOR CAPTAIN WILEY?

ANOTHER FIRE! YES, MITCHELL TELL THE CAPTAIN I'M HEADING STRAIGHT FOR BROOKLYN! WAIT... YOU CAN TAKE ME ASHORE!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, RORY... NOT ENOUGH SMOKE FOR ONE NIGHT!

POLICE 434

THOSE HOT-FINGER BOYS HAVE PULLED A FAST ONE, HAMLER! YOU HEARD THE REPORT, NOT A BLAMED THING IN THAT WAREHOUSE.. IT'S BEEN EMPTY FOR TWO YEARS! SO THEY SET FIRE TO IT, DRAG TEN COMPANIES THERE INCLUDING THREE FROM BROOKLYN... AND THE ARSON SQUAD... WHY, YOU CAN SMELL THE KEROSENE FROM HERE!

I GET THE PICTURE! THEN THEY HAVE IT PRETTY SAFE SETTING FIRE TO ANOTHER WAREHOUSE.. THIS ONE LOADED, ACROSS THE RIVER! I'D LIKE TO GO OVER THERE WITH YOU, RORY!

KING OF THE ARSONISTS, MASTER OF THE DOUBLE DEAL, BARNEY OTIS SAT IN REGAL SPLENDOR IN THE LIBRARY OF THE LUXURIOUS APARTMENT HIS NEFARIOUS ENTERPRISES AFFORDED HIM..

THE BOYS REALLY DID A JOB, CLAY! YES, I COULD SEE IT FROM MY WINDOWS ON THE EAST RIVER! OH, THE BROOKLYN THING? HARRY DUGAN PHONED ME A HALF-HOUR AGO! HE SAID THAT, FROM ALL REPORTS, NOTHING SHOULD BE LEFT OF THE BUILDING BUT THE WALLS... HOLD IT FOR LATER, CLAY ...SOMEBODY'S COMING! I'LL SEE YOU IN AN HOUR...RIGHT!

WELL, YOU BOYS CAME THROUGH FINE...BEEN OUT CELEBRATING, EH! YOU'LL NEVER OWN A PLACE LIKE THIS, SPENDING YOUR DOUGH BEFORE THE PAYOFF! I GOT SOME CASH FOR...SAY, WHY THE GLOOM, FLIP?

AW...I HAD TO PLUG THE WATCHMAN, BARNEY! I KNOW YOU SAID NEVER TO SHOOT, BUT HE WOULD HAVE YELLED HIS HEAD OFF!

SOMETIMES YOU GOT TO DISOBEY ORDERS! I JUST DON'T WANT ANY OF MY BOYS TO GO POPPING OFF WITHOUT REASON! YOU USED INITIATIVE, FLIP! I LIKE THAT! IT'S WORTH ANOTHER TWO CENTURIES!

THANKS, BOSS... THANKS FOR UNDERSTANDING!

WELL, I GOT A HEAVY DATE, GENTS! YOU KNOW WHERE I KEEP THE LIQUOR! HELP YOURSELVES!

SO LONG, BARNEY!

BE SEEIN' YOU, BOSS!

BARNEY'S DATE THAT NIGHT WAS WITH CLAY MALLY, THE ONLY MAN IN THE WORLD WHO KNEW OF OTIS' DOUBLE LIFE...AS THE LEADER OF TWO GANGS! OTIS ANONYMOUSLY CONTRACTED TO SET FIRES FOR UNSCRUPULOUS BUSINESS MEN..THEN EXTORTED MONEY FROM THOSE SAME MEN BY THREATENING TO EXPOSE THEM...

HELLO, CLAY! YOU HAVE THE LATEST REPORTS?

GLAD TO SEE YOU, BARNEY! I GOT A CALL FROM SID RAYMOND ABOUT TEN MINUTES AGO! HE SAID THE PLACE WAS THOROUGHLY GUTTED!

BOYS, WE OUGHT TO GET A BIG TAKE ON THIS JOB! ANDREW BLACKELL HAD THAT WAREHOUSE AND ITS CONTENTS INSURED FOR A COOL MILLION! I'M GOING TO DEMAND HALF OF THAT... AND WE'LL GET IT! WE'RE GOING THERE NOW WHILE BLACKELL'S STILL NERVOUS ABOUT THE FIRE!

LET'S GO!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

KILL THESE HAIR-DESTROYING GERMS WITH WARD'S FORMULA

NOTHING, *Absolutely nothing known to Science can do more to*

SAVE YOUR HAIR

Beware of your itchy scalp, hair loss, dandruff, head scales, unpleasant head odors! Nature may be warning you of approaching baldness. Heed Nature's warning! Treat your scalp to scientifically prepared Ward's Formula.

Millions of trouble-breeding bacteria, living on your sick scalp (see above) are killed on contact. Ward's Formula kills not one, but *all four* types of these destructive scalp germs now recognized by many medical authorities as a significant cause of baldness. Kill these germs—don't risk letting them kill your hair growth.

ENJOY THESE 5 BENEFITS IMMEDIATELY

1. Kills these 4 types of germs that retard normal hair growth—*on contact*
2. Removes ugly infectious dandruff—*fast*
3. Brings hair-nourishing blood to scalp—*quickly*
4. Stops annoying scalp itch and burn—*instantly*
5. Starts wonderful self-massaging action—*within 3 seconds*

Once you're bald, that's *it*, friends! There's nothing you can do. Your hair is gone forever. So are your chances of getting it back. But Ward's Formula, used as directed, keeps your sick scalp free of itchy dandruff, seborrhea, and stops the hair loss they cause. Almost at once your hair looks thicker, more attractive and alive.

We don't ask you to believe *us*. Thousands of men and women—first skeptical just as you are—have *proved* what we say. Read *their* grateful letters. Study the guarantee—it's *better* than a free trial! Then try Ward's Formula at *our* risk. Use it for only 10 short days. You must enjoy *all* the benefits we claim—or we return not only the price you pay—but DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK. You be the judge! **Ward Laboratories, Inc., 1430 Broadway, New York 18, N Y**

TO SAVE YOUR HAIR ACT NOW
Send coupon today for 10-day offer. Send No Money

I must admit I didn't have much faith in it, but I hadn't been using Ward's one week before I could see it was helping me. I could feel my hair getting thicker.
E. K., Cleveland, Ohio

Out of all the Hair Experts I went to, I've gotten the *most* help from one bottle of Ward's Formula.
C. La M , Philadelphia, Pa.

After using Ward's for only 12 days, my hair has stopped falling out.
R. W. C., Cicero, Ill.

I am tickled to death with the results. In just two weeks' time—no *dandruff!* W. T. W., Portola, Cal.

I feel encouraged to say that the infuriating scalp itch which has bothered me for 5 years is now gone
J. M. K., Columbus, Ohio

Guarantee

This written guarantee entitles you not only to return of price paid for Ward's Formula, but Double Your Money Back unless you actually SEE, FEEL and ENJOY all benefits herein claimed in only ten days. The test is at our risk. All you do is return unused portion or the empty bottle unless completely satisfied.

SEAL

Ward Laboratories, Inc.

---ACT TODAY or YOU MAY BE TOO LATE!---

Ward Laboratories, Inc.
1430 Broadway, Dept. 73 H New York 18, N. Y.

Rush Ward's Formula to me at once. I will pay postman two dollars plus postage. I must be completely satisfied within 10 days, or you GUARANTEE refund of DOUBLE MY MONEY BACK upon return of bottle and unused portion.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zone ____ State _____

☐ Check here if you enclose $2.00 with order, and we will pay postage. Same refund offer holds, of course. *APO, FPO, Canada & Foreign add $0e; no CODs.*

DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

THE BROOKLYN RESIDENCE OF MANUFACTURER ANDREW BLACKELL WAS JUST A FIFTEEN MINUTE RIDE FROM CLAY MALLY'S HOME...

BUT MR. BLACKELL IS RETIRED FOR THE NIGHT, SIR!

WELL, GET HIM UP! TELL HIM IT'S ABOUT THE FIRE! HE'LL SEE US!

VINCENT... SHOW THE GENTLEMEN IN!

... GOOD EVENING, MR. BLACKELL! WHAT I HAVE TO SAY WON'T TAKE LONG, BUT I THINK IT WOULD BE BETTER IF WE TALKED IN PRIVATE!

IF YOU'LL FOLLOW ME...

BARNEY OTIS PRESENTED HIS TERMS...

I'M NOT SURE I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!

I'M SURE YOU DO, MR BLACKELL! I HAVE COME BY A CERTAIN CONTRACT RELATIVE TO THE BURNING OF YOUR WAREHOUSE!

WHERE'D YOU GET THAT! GIVE IT TO ME!

SIT DOWN, BLACKELL!

HOW I GOT IT IS INCIDENTAL, MR BLACKELL! YOU MAY HAVE IT FOR A PRICE.. SAY, HALF A MILLION DOLLARS!

HALF-A MIL.. WHY YOU'RE INSANE TO THINK YOU COULD BLACK-MAIL ME! GET OUT!

AS YOU WISH, MR. BLACKELL. BUT CONSIDER THIS! FOR JUST HALF THE INSURANCE YOU'LL COLLECT, YOU'LL BE BUYING FREEDOM! I COULD SEND THIS CONTRACT TO THE POLICE WITHOUT ANY DANGER TO MYSELF! YOU'D GO TO THE PENITENTIARY FOR PERHAPS TEN YEARS...

YOU KNOW YOU'VE GOT ME, OTIS! BUT I CAN'T PAY YOU TONIGHT UNLESS YOU TAKE A POST-DATED CHECK..

NO CHECKS, BLACKELL! I CAN WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW NIGHT! I KNOW YOU'RE A MAN OF CONSIDERABLE MEANS! HAVE THE CASH HERE AND I'LL HAVE THE CONTRACT.. AT NINE O'CLOCK, IF THAT TIME IS CONVENIENT FOR YOU!

THE FOLLOWING MORNING IN THE OFFICE OF CAPT VINCENT WILEY, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS

WHY DON'T YOU GO HOME AND GET SOME SLEEP? I'LL BET YOU DIDN'T GET TO BED TILL FOUR A.M...

I DIDN'T GET TO SLEEP, PERIOD, WILEY! I DID A LOT OF THINKING AND I'VE COME UP WITH AN IDEA FOR TRAPPING THE ARSON GANG... SORT OF AN EXTREME MEASURE!

NOTHING ELSE HAS WORKED SO FAR! THAT WATCHMAN AT THE BLACKELL WAREHOUSE IS THE FIRST MAN EVER TO HAVE SEEN ANY OF THEM! INCIDENTALLY, HE SEEMS TO BE GETTING ALONG ALL RIGHT! THEY OPERATED LAST NIGHT!

BUT SEEING THEM DOESN'T PROVE COLLUSION BETWEEN THE ARSONISTS AND WAREHOUSE OWNERS! AS I SEE IT WE'LL HAVE TO ANTICIPATE THE NEXT DELIBERATELY SET FIRE... AND THE ONLY WAY THAT CAN BE DONE IS BY CHECKING THOSE WHO ARE IN FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY!

FOR TWO WEEKS THE POLICE INVESTIGATED LIKELY ARSON PROSPECTS AMONG MANUFACTURERS AND WAREHOUSEMEN! PROWL CARS PATROLLED STREETS WHERE SUSPECT WAREHOUSES WERE SITUATED! THEN, ONE NIGHT, THE LAW'S VIGIL PAID OFF...

THERE THEY GO...THEY PASSED THE WAREHOUSE FOUR TIMES, AND THEY SLOWED UP EACH TIME THEY CAME TO IT! AS IF THEY WERE TRYING TO MAKE SURE NOBODY WAS THERE!

I THINK WE'VE FINALLY GOT THEM, WILLARD! GIVE THAT BUNCH ABOUT THREE MINUTES TO GET TO WORK... THEN WE'LL CATCH THEM REDHANDED!

THREE MINUTES LATER, IN THE BASEMENT OF THE WAREHOUSE...

THAT OUGHT TO BE ENOUGH, BOYS! LET ME TOUCH HER OFF! THERE'S BIG DOUGH WAITING FOR US!

COME ON, LET 'ER ROAR! AND PAL...GET READY TO RUN! THIS PLACE WILL GO FAST!

AIEEE!

COPS! COPS!

YOU'VE PLAYED WITH FIRE FOR THE LAST TIME... YOU'RE ALL UNDER ARREST!

CRACK

GIVE 'EM BLAZES!

AGHRRR! UGHHHH!

CRACK

CRACK

OHHH!

AIEEE!

NO MORE... WE'VE HAD ENOUGH!

DON'T SHOOT... WE DROPPED OUR RODS!

GIVE US A BREAK!

I AIN'T GOING TO THE PEN... LET ME THROUGH! UGHHH!

YOU ARE THROUGH!

IT WAS THE END OF THE ARSON GANG... BUT NOT THE END OF DETECTIVE DAN RORY'S JOB! HE AND DETECTIVE MILT WILLARD AND TWO PATROLMEN RUSHED TO THE RIVER-SIDE APARTMENT HOUSE OF WAREHOUSE OWNER, EDWARD NOLTON

MR. NOLTON HAS THE PENTHOUSE...

WITH HIS SYSTEM HE COULD HAVE TEN OF THEM!

SHHH! GET A LOAD OF THIS!

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE HOW I GOT THIS CONTRACT, MR. NOLTON? THE MAIN THING IS THAT IT BEARS YOUR SIGNATURE AND ENOUGH INCRIMINATING EVIDENCE TO SEND YOU TO PRISON FOR TRYING TO DEFRAUD YOUR FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY! THIS, IN THE HANDS OF THE POLICE, WOULD END ALL THIS LUXURY YOU'VE BEEN LIVING IN!

IT'S NOTHING MORE THAN EXTORTION, OTIS! HALF OF THE INSURANCE I'LL COLLECT!

YOU WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT PAYING THIS TWO HEADED RAT A DIME, NOLTON... IN FACT, YOU WON'T COLLECT A DIME YOURSELF!

WELL, WELL... YOU'RE REALLY PLAYING EVERY ANGLE, BARNEY OTIS! YOUR BOYS TOLD US YOU WERE THE TOP KICK IN THE ARSON RING... BUT I'LL BET THEY DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE COLLECTING AGAIN FROM THE MEN WHO HIRED YOU BY BLACKMAILING THEM... LET'S HAVE THAT CONTRACT!

KNOWING ALL THAT WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD... AGHHH!

YOU SWINE! SO THAT'S WHY I COULDN'T MEET THE MAN I WAS DOING BUSINESS WITH! YOU WANTED TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY OF SQUEEZING ME AGAIN!

HEY... GIVE ME THAT CONTRACT!

YOU STUPID FOOL... YOU'VE PRACTICALLY CONFESSED! I'LL KILL YOU FOR THAT! I'LL TEAR... AIEEE!

KEEP AWAY FROM ME!

PLEASE LET ME DESTROY IT! DON'T YOU SEE WHAT IT'LL DO TO ME? I COULDN'T STAND PRISON!

NO SOAP, NOLTON... YOU MUST FACE THE CONSEQUENCES OF YOUR GREED! YOU STUFFED YOUR WAREHOUSE WITH JUNK, REMOVED ALL THE VALUABLE GOODS... SO YOU'D COLLECT INSURANCE ON THE WAREHOUSE, AND ON FURNITURE THAT WAS NEVER IN IT! THIS IS YOUR PAYOFF!

SO THE BRILLIANT, COURAGEOUS WORK OF DETECTIVE DAN RORY AND HIS FELLOW OFFICERS BROKE THE ARSON RING... AND THE MEN FOR WHOM THEY SET THE SEARING FIRES JOINED THE MOBSTERS BEHIND PRISON BARS!

THE END

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THE DEADLY CLUE!

YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH THIS! (GASP!) NO! DON'T KILL ME!

YOU'VE GOT TO DIE, MILLARD! I'VE THOUGHT OF EVERYTHING AND MOST OF ALL I'VE THOUGHT OF YOUR MONEY! I WANT THAT MONEY, AND I'M GOING TO KILL YOU FOR IT!

ON SEPTEMBER 9TH 1947, KURT RAFTE, ELECTRICIAN, OVERHEARD A CONVERSATION THAT GAVE HIM AN IDEA FOR MURDER... A PERFECT CRIME THAT WOULD ALLOW HIM TO GO SCOT-FREE! BUT THE PHILADELPHIA POLICE HAD OTHER IDEAS WHEN THEY UNCOVERED... *THE DEADLY CLUE!*

PAUL COOPER

9257

...AND ANOTHER QUEER ONE, MRS. McCARTHY, IS THIS OLD MAN MILLARD UP IN 3-C! NEVER COMES OUT OF THE HOUSE, EVEN TO BUY FOOD! SENDS DOWN A LIST OF WHAT HE WANTS ON THE DUMBWAITER... I SHOP FOR HIM—AND NOT A DIME TIP DOES HE GIVE ME!

OH? WHAT I HEAR FROM SOME OF THE OLD TENANTS, ANDREW MILLARD KEEPS A SMALL FORTUNE IN THAT FLAT OF HIS!

AND YOU OUGHT TO SEE THAT PLACE! HE CALLED ME UP TO FIX A LEAKY PIPE ONCE... THE JUNK HE HAS STACKED AROUND! IT'S A FIRE HAZARD!... I OUGHT TO REPORT HIM, BUT YOU KNOW I LIKE TO MIND MY BUSINESS!

TSK! THAT MONEY IS OF NO USE TO HIM! SO MANY FOLKS COULD USE EVEN A SMALL PART OF THAT TO LIVE ON!

1

YES, THERE WERE FOLKS WHO COULD USE THAT MONEY! KURT RAFTE, FOR ONE! FROM THE MOMENT HE HEARD OF THE $15,000 IN THE RECLUSE'S FLAT, HE ENVISIONED HIMSELF A MAN OF WEALTH... HE DECIDED TO TAKE THE RISK!

VRRMT HR

IT WOULD SPOIL EVERYTHING IF I WERE SEEN HERE! OF COURSE, I CAN TELL THEM I FORGOT SOME TOOLS... BUT I COULD NEVER TAKE THE MONEY... PEOPLE WOULD SUSPECT ME AT ONCE!

KEEP TALKING... DON'T HEAR ME! PLEASE DON'T HEAR ME...

YOU KEEP TALKING ABOUT BUYING A LITTLE HOUSE IN THE COUNTRY AS THO WE REALLY HAD THE MONEY TO DO IT! CRAZY WOMAN! YOU'VE NEVER EVEN LIVED OUT OF THE CITY!

BUT I WAS UP TO VAN CORTLANDT PARK ONCE-- THAT'S LIKE THE COUNTRY!

3-C... HERE IT IS! NOW, OFF GO HIS LIGHTS!

SO FAR, SO GOOD! BUT I HAVE MANY BRIDGES YET TO CROSS... THE JANITOR'S FLAT AGAIN, AND THEN THROUGH THE FRONT AND UPSTAIRS! I'LL BE $15,000 RICHER SOON IF NO ONE MEETS ME ON THE WAY!

I SAID IT'S THE ELECTRICIAN, MR. MILLARD! I HAVE TO FIX YOUR LIGHTS!

FIX M'LIGHTS? HUH! HOW'D Y'KNOW THEY WAS OUT?

ALL THE LIGHTS IN THE HOUSE WENT OUT! MR. CHRISTIE-- THE JANITOR-- HE CALLED ME A FEW MINUTES AGO! HE --UH-- KNEW I WAS RIGHT IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD! IT WON'T TAKE LONG, MR. MILLARD!

WILL YOU SHOW ME THE KITCHEN, PLEASE?

YOU SURE YOU'RE THE ELECTRICIAN, MISTER? HM ? IF LIGHTS ARE OUT ALL OVER THE HOUSE, SEEMS TO ME IT'D BE SOMETHING IN THE CELLAR! WELL, I'LL SHOW YOU THE KITCHEN, BUT GET DONE HERE FAST!

STOP! WHAT ARE YOU DOING? AGHH... AGGHHH... AGHHH...

WHY SHOULD YOU HAVE ALL THAT MONEY? WHAT GOOD IS IT TO YOU? THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS I COULD DO WITH FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS!

THERE... YOU'LL NEVER BE MISSED! THEY'LL BURY YOU, AND NEVER BELIEVE YOU DIDN'T JUST DIE OF A HEART ATTACK! NOW--THE MONEY! WHAT A JOB TO HUNT FOR IT IN THIS MESS!

IT WAS A HALF HOUR BEFORE KURT RAFTE FELT A SURGE OF TRIUMPH WHEN AT LAST HE FOUND --

THE MONEY! I'VE FOUND THE MONEY! A WHOLE BAG FULL OF IT-- THOUSANDS--AT LEAST AS MUCH AS I'VE HEARD THEM SAY!

THEY'LL FIND THE DOOR LOCKED FROM THE INSIDE... AND THEY'LL BE SURE HE DIED OF NATURAL CAUSES! JUST TWO MINUTES MORE, AND I'LL BE ON MY WAY BACK TO THE SHOP-- A VERY WELL-OFF MAN!

A HALF HOUR LATER, MRS. CHRISTIE WAS SHOWING AN INTEREST IN MR. ANDREW MILLARD SHE HAD NEVER SHOWN BEFORE...

POOR OLD MAN, UP THERE ALL ALONE! HE'D ENJOY A LITTLE HOT SOUP, EDWARD!

HA, HA! I THINK YOU'RE FIGGERING HOW AN OLD MAN MIGHT REMEMBER YOU IN HIS WILL! SMART WOMAN, EMMIE!

I BET HE WON'T EVEN OPEN THE DOOR! HE'S A VERY PECULIAR MAN, THIS MR. MILLARD!

I'LL HOLD THIS SOUP NEAR THE DOOR-- HE'LL LET ME IN WHEN HE SMELLS IT!

EDWARD! EDWARD! YOU BETTER COME UP HERE WITH A KEY! -- FOR FIVE MINUTES I'VE BEEN POUNDING AND CALLING-- BUT HE DON'T ANSWER!

I'M COMING, EMMIE, I'M COMING!

I CAN'T GET THE KEY IN, EMMIE--HE LEFT HIS OWN KEY INSIDE, IN THE LOCK! SOMETHING MUST BE WRONG IN THERE--I'M GOING TO CALL THE POLICE, EMMIE!

POOR OLD MAN... POOR OLD MAN!

DETECTIVES SAM CHANDLER AND LARRY FOSTER ARRIVED WITH OTHER OFFICERS FROM HOMICIDE AND CAME TO A QUICK VERDICT--

OFFHAND I'D SAY IT LOOKS LIKE A NATURAL DEATH! THE WHOLE PLACE IS LOCKED UP FROM INSIDE!

YEAH, THAT'S THE WAY IT SIZES UP, SAM, BUT I'M JUST A LITTLE CURIOUS ABOUT THE LIGHTS BEING OUT! HEY, YOU --JANITOR -- MR. CHRISTIE--SHOW US THE FUSE BOXES!

-- NOW HERE IS THE FUSE FOR 3-C, MR. MILLARD'S AP--! SAY-- THE FUSE IS MISSING! THAT SHOULDN'T BE... I JUST HAD THE ELECTRICIAN HERE FOR REPAIRS TODAY!

THAT'S VERY INTERESTING!

YEAH! WHAT'S THIS ELECTRICIAN'S NAME AND ADDRESS?

KURT RAFTE-- 2027 FORDHAM ROAD! HE'S DONE MY REPAIRS FOR YEARS... SUCH A NICE, QUIET FELLOW... NEVER CHARGES TOO MUCH!

COME ON, LARRY! LET'S TAKE A RIDE OVER THERE!

BEFORE LEAVING FOR RAFTE'S HOME, DETECTIVES CHANDLER AND FOSTER ORDERED A CHECKUP OF TENANTS MADE BY SERGEANT RYCOV AND HIS MEN...

THE BACK ALLEY'S GOT FRESH TIRE TRACKS AN' PRINTS! I'M HAVING CASTS MADE OF EVERYTHING!

GOOD WORK, SERGEANT!

A SHORT WHILE LATER----

WHY DOESN'T HE ANSWER THE DOOR? HEY! I SMELL RUBBER BURNING!

DO YOU THINK HE FIGURED WE MIGHT FIND THOSE TRACKS?

ELECTRIC

RING-G...

THE POLICE, RAFTE! WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG?

I--I WAS ASLEEP! I HAD TO PUT ON SOME CLOTHES!

YEAH? WHERE DO YOU SLEEP? IN A VULCANIZING PLANT; WHERE'S YOUR FURNACE, RAFTE? WE WANT TO SEE WHAT'S COOKING!

IT'S RUBBER BURNING, ALL RIGHT...TIRES, AND A PAIR OF SHOES!

YOU DIDN'T MISS A TRICK, DID YOU, RAFTE?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT! IS THERE A LAW AGAINST BURNING THOSE THINGS?

FRUSTRATED AND ANGERED BY THE WILY ELECTRICIAN, DETECTIVES CHANDLER AND FOSTER WERE ABOUT TO LEAVE WHEN THE PHONE RANG...IT WAS SERGEANT RYCOV...

I FOUND A PAIR OF GLOVES, CLOTH ONES, SIZE 6, IN MILLARD'S FLAT! THEY'D NEVER HAVE FIT HIM--HE HAD GREAT BIG HANDS...

FINE, SERGEANT! BRING THEM TO HEADQUARTERS! WE'LL MEET YOU THERE ...WITH A GUEST!

M-ME? I'M UNDER ARREST?

ARREST? OH, I WOULDN'T SAY THAT! LET'S JUST SAY THERE MAY BE SOME ELECTRICAL WORK THAT MIGHT CONCERN YOU! IT'S CONNECTED TO A CHAIR UP AT SING SING!

YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME-- I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING!

AT THE POLICE LABORATORY, A LAB TECHNICIAN DIPPED THE GLOVES IN SILVER NITRATE, EXPOSED THEM TO ULTRA-VIOLET LIGHT AND COMPARED THE PRINTS THAT APPEARED ON THE GLOVES WITH THOSE TAKEN FROM RAFTE'S HANDS...

A PERFECT MATCH!

YOU'RE UNDER ARREST FOR THE MURDER OF ANDREW MILLARD, RAFTE! YOU WANT TO TELL US WHY YOU DID IT? DID YOU ROB HIM, RAFTE?

NO! NO! HOW COULD I GET IN, EVEN? HIS DOOR WAS LOCKED!

HOW DID YOU KNOW MILLARD'S DOOR WAS LOCKED, RAFTE? MAYBE BECAUSE YOU TURNED THE KEY FROM THE OUTSIDE WITH THIS GADGET! YOU'RE HOOKED, RAFTE!

THE MONEY WAS NO GOOD TO HIM! I'M NOT GOING TO THE CHAIR FOR A MISER NOBODY CARED ABOUT! LET ME GO--LET ME OUT OF HERE!

LET ME GO! I DON'T WANT TO DIE-- UGHH!

NO! AND NEITHER DID POOR OLD ANDREW MILLARD, BUT YOU CUT OFF HIS BREATH TILL HE WAS DEAD! ALL RIGHT, RAFTE, YOU TOOK YOUR CHANCE, YOU WERE CAUGHT--NOW YOU'LL PAY THE PRICE FOR MURDER!

A SEARCH OF RAFTE'S SHOP UNCOVERED $15,000! IN A COUPLE OF MONTHS RAFTE WAS TURNED OVER TO THE WARDEN AT SING SING, WHERE HE PAID FOR HIS GREED IN THE DEATH HOUSE!

THE END

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Reducing Specialist Says:

LOSE WEIGHT Where It Shows Most REDUCE MOST ANY PART OF THE BODY WITH

UNDERWRITERS LABORATORY APPROVED

Spot Reducer

Relaxing • Soothing Penetrating Massage

FOR GREATEST BENEFIT IN REDUCING by massage use spot REDUCER with or without electricity—Also used as an aid in the relief of pains for which massage is indicated.

Take pounds off—keep slim and trim with Spot Reducer! Remarkable new invention which uses one of the most effective reducing methods employed by masseurs and turkish baths—MASSAGE!

TAKE OFF EXCESS WEIGHT!

Don't Stay FAT—You Can LOSE POUNDS and INCHES SAFELY Without Risking HEALTH

LIKE a magic wand, the "Spot Reducer" obeys your every wish. Most any part of your body where it is loose and flabby, wherever you have extra weight and inches, the "Spot Reducer" can aid you in acquiring a youthful, slender and graceful figure. The beauty of this scientifically designed Reducer is that the method is so simple and easy, the results quick, sure and harmless. No exercises or strict diets. No steambaths, drugs or laxatives.

With the SPOT REDUCER you can now enjoy the benefits of RELAXING, SOOTHING massage in the privacy of your own home! Simple to use—just plug in, grasp handle and apply over most any part of the body—stomach, hips, chest, neck, thighs, arms, buttocks, etc. The relaxing, soothing massage breaks down FATTY TISSUES, tones the muscles and flesh, and the increased awakened blood circulation carries away waste fat—helps you regain and keep a firmer and more GRACEFUL FIGURE!

YOUR OWN PRIVATE MASSEUR AT HOME

When you use the Spot Reducer, it's almost like having your own private masseur at home. It's fun reducing this way! It not only helps you reduce and keep slim—but also aids in the relief of those types of aches and pains—and tired nerves that can be helped by massage! The Spot Reducer is handsomely made of light weight aluminum and rubber and truly a beautiful invention you will be thankful you own. AC 110 volts. Underwriters Laboratory approved.

TRY THE SPOT REDUCER 10 DAYS FREE IN YOUR OWN HOME!

Mail this coupon with only $1 for your Spot Reducer on approval. Pay postman $8.95 plus delivery—or send $9.95 (full price) and we ship postage prepaid. Use it for ten days in your own home. Then if not delighted return Spot Reducer for full purchase price refund. Don't delay! You have nothing to lose—except ugly, embarrassing, undesirable pounds of FAT. MAIL COUPON now!

ALSO USE IT FOR ACHES AND PAINS

CAN'T SLEEP:

Relax with electric Spot Reducer. See how soothing its gentle massage can be. Helps you sleep when massage can be of benefit.

MUSCULAR ACHES:

A handy helper for transient relief of discomforts that can be aided by gentle, relaxing massage.

LOSE WEIGHT OR NO CHARGE

USED BY EXPERTS

Thousands have lost weight this way — in hips, abdomen, legs, arms, necks, buttocks, etc. The same method used by stage, screen and radio personalities and leading reducing salons. The Spot Reducer can be used in your spare time, in the privacy of your own room.

ORDER IT TODAY!

MAIL THIS 10 DAY FREE TRIAL COUPON NOW!

SENT ON APPROVAL—MAIL COUPON NOW!

SPOT REDUCER CO., Dept. E 648
318 Market St., Newark, New Jersey

Please send me the Spot Reducer for 10 days trial period. I enclose $1. Upon arrival I will pay postman only $8.95 plus postage and handling. If not delighted I may return SPOT REDUCER within 10 days for prompt refund of full purchase price.

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... State .....

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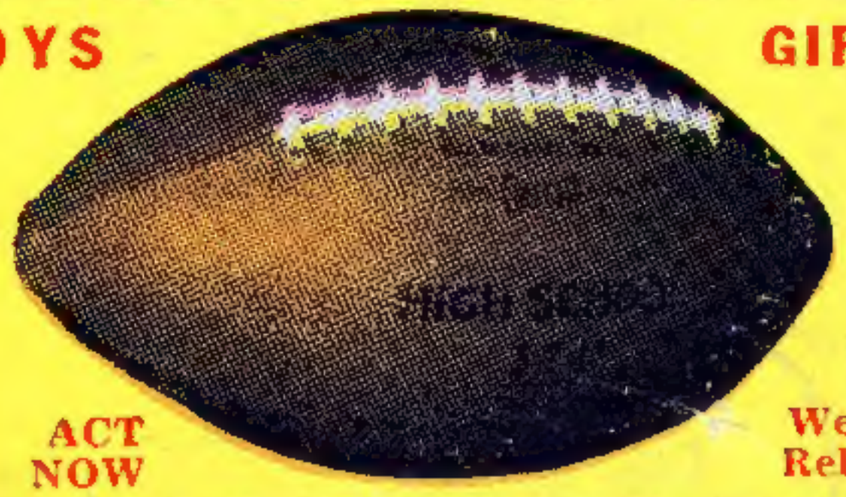

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